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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/710,905	08/12/2004	Chien-Jung Hsin	DROP0001USA	4904
27765 7590 06/01/2007 NORTH AMERICA INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY CORPORATION P.O. BOX 506 MERRIFIELD, VA 22116			EXAMINER MEMULA, SURESH	
			ART UNIT 2825	PAPER NUMBER
			NOTIFICATION DATE 06/01/2007	DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/710,905

Applicant(s)

HSIN ET AL.

Examiner

Suresh Memula

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03/15/07.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 18-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-17 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 18-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 August 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

This FINAL office action is a response to the amendments and remarks filed on 03/15/2007. The remarks are not persuasive; therefore, the rejections based on the prior art of record, Bhattacharya et al., are maintained. Claims 18-27 are pending, of which Claims 1-17 are cancelled.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:
The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.
2. **Claims 18-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph**, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.
3. In Claim 18, at line 5, the limitation "the updating" in "enabling the updating of the database" lacks proper antecedent basis.
4. Claims 19-27 are rejected for their dependency on rejected base Claim 18.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. **Claims 18-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)** as being anticipated by US Pub. No. 2002/0069396 to Bhattacharya et al. (Bhattacharya).
7. As to Claim 18,
providing a plurality of kinds of description instructions (Abstract; Paragraph 0103; FIG. 10) and a database (Paragraphs 0008, 0102; FIG. 10) specific to an integrated circuit (Abstract; Paragraph 0003);
optionally modifying one kind of the description instructions (Abstract; Paragraphs 0020-0021, 0033-0037; FIG. 10); and

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automatically (Title; Paragraphs 0005, 0007, 0033; FIG. 10) enabling the updating of the database (Paragraphs 0008, 0082, 0102-0103; FIG. 10) once any of the description instructions is modified (Abstract; Paragraphs 0020-0021, 0033-0037; FIG. 10);

wherein other kinds of description instructions (Abstract; Paragraph 0103; FIG. 10) are automatically (Title; Paragraphs 0005, 0007, 0033; FIG. 10) updated along with the updating of the database (Paragraphs 0008, 0082, 0102-0103; FIG. 10).

8. As to Claim 19, wherein the integrated circuit is an ASIC (Paragraph 0015).
9. As to Claim 20, wherein the description instruction being optionally modified is a timing slack report of the integrated circuit (Paragraphs 0020-0021, 0032-0037, 0052, 0060, 0073, 0103; FIG. 10).
10. As to Claim 21, wherein the description instructions being automatically updated include a netlist, a noise analysis report and/or a power analysis report of the integrated circuit (Paragraphs 0020, 0034, 0052, 0060, 0070, 0082, 0103).
11. As to Claim 22, wherein the description instruction being optionally modified is a netlist of the integrated circuit (Paragraphs 0020, 0060, 0082, 0103).
12. As to Claim 23, wherein the description instructions being automatically updated include a timing slack report, a noise analysis report and/or a power analysis report of the integrated circuit (Paragraphs 0009, 0020-0021, 0032-0037, 0052, 0060, 0070, 0082, 0103).
13. As to Claim 24, wherein the description instruction being optionally modified is a noise analysis report of the integrated circuit (Paragraphs 0034, 0070, 0103).
14. As to Claim 25, wherein the description instructions being automatically updated include a timing slack report, a netlist and/or a power analysis report of

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the integrated circuit (Paragraphs 0009, 0020-0021, 0032-0037, 0052, 0060, 0070, 0082, 0103).

15. As to Claim 26, wherein the description instruction being optionally modified is a power analysis report of the integrated circuit (Paragraphs 0009, 0020-0021, 0032-0037, 0052, 0060, 0070, 0082, 0103).

16. As to Claim 27, wherein the description instructions being automatically updated include a timing slack report, a netlist and/or a noise analysis report of the integrated circuit (Paragraphs 0009, 0020-0021, 0032-0037, 0052, 0060, 0070, 0082, 0103).

Response to Applicant Remarks

17. The applicant states: "None of the cited references and their combinations discloses or suggests the subject matter as recited in claim 18."

Examiner's response:

18. Bhattacharya's invention is directed to an automated method of designing IC's (Paragraphs 0003, 0005, 0007, 0033; FIG. 10), and specifically teaches "a graphical interface (GUI)...is provided for allowing the importing of the design and the user-specified constraints, etc. Interface 75 provides for the presentation of the design-specific cell information, netlist information concerning both standard cells and design-specific cells, the generation of various reports and scripts, the generation driver scripts to interface to other software tools, etc.", and further teaches libraries (Paragraph 0008; FIG. 10) and databases (Paragraph 0102; FIG. 10), both of which read-on the claimed "database".

19. Bhattacharya further teaches an automated method (Paragraphs 0005, 0007, 0033; FIG. 10) for modification/optimization/alteration (Abstract; Paragraphs 0020-0021, 0033-0037; FIG. 10) of a plurality data components (Abstract; Paragraphs 0102-0103; FIG. 10), i.e., description instructions, and the data components, i.e., one kind of the description instructions and other kind of description instructions, are contained in the database (Paragraph 0102), and the "database 80 can be updated as needed" (Paragraph 0102) in accordance with the automated method (Paragraphs 0005, 0007, 0033; FIG. 10).

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Conclusion

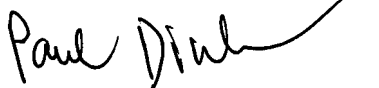
20. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

21. A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

22. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Suresh Memula whose telephone number is (571) 272-8046. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8am-4:30pm EST. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jack Chiang can be reached on (571) 272-7483. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

23. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

PAUL DINH
PRIMARY EXAMINER



Suresh Memula
Art Unit 2825
May 23, 2007